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**Imagery analysis report**

# **Summary of Military Activity, Iraq/Iran, (S)**

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**Z-20165/80  
IAR-0346/80  
DECEMBER 1980  
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| <b>NOCONTRACT-</b> | Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants              |
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**SUMMARY OF MILITARY ACTIVITY, IRAQ/IRAN.**

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1. (S/D) This imagery-derived report summarizes military activity along the Iraq/Iran border (Figure 1) [REDACTED]. The report discusses the Iraqi advance into Iran, the forces committed by each nation to the conflict area, and the delineation of the forward edge of the battle area. A separate report will be published addressing ground force units out of garrison in Iraq and Iran.

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**OVERVIEW**

2. (S/D) The entire Iraq/Iran border area was covered on satellite imagery during the reporting period. Iraqi forces penetrated the Iranian border in six major areas, from Khorramshahr in the south to Qasr-E Shirin in the north. The Iraqis have committed elements of at least three and possibly four armor divisions, two mechanized infantry divisions, and at least three mountain infantry divisions. Opposing Iranian forces consisted of elements of at least four brigade-sized armor forces, three battalion-sized nondivisional self-propelled (SP) gun units, and 11 battalion-sized artillery units.

3. (S/D) A comparison of the amount of Iraqi and Iranian military equipment observed in the forward areas shows the imbalance between the Iraqi and Iranian forces committed to the conflict.

| <b>Military Equipment</b>         | <b>Iraq</b> | <b>Iran</b> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tanks                             | 1,329       | 278         |
| Armored personnel carriers (APCs) | 747         | 148         |
| Field artillery (FA)              | 437         | 61          |
| SP guns                           | 24          | 95          |
| Rocket launchers                  | 4           | 0           |
| Surface-to-air missiles           | 70          | 12          |

4. (S/D) Iraqi forces advancing in the Khorramshahr/Abadan, Ahvaz southwest, and Dezful/Shush areas were in each case led by an armor brigade supported by a mechanized infantry brigade. The advancing Iraqi forces at Susangerd and Ahvaz west-northwest area were made up of only an armor brigade.

5. (S/D) The Iraqi and Iranian force dispositions in the forward areas remained relatively unchanged between [REDACTED] and late November/early December. The current status of the Iraqi/Iranian ground forces is being reported in a series of National Photographic Interpretation Center Imagery Analysis Reports entitled "Iraq/Iran Military Summary."

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6. (S/D) An Iraqi armor brigade, elements of a second armor brigade, and elements of a mechanized infantry brigade advanced on Khorramshahr/Abadan from the west-northwest. [REDACTED] the armor brigade had placed a ponton bridge across the Karun River, 11 nautical miles (nm) northeast of Khorramshahr, interdicted the pipeline between Khorramshahr/Abadan and Ahvaz at seven locations, and advanced to within 2 nm north of Abadan. Elements of the second armor brigade and one mechanized infantry brigade were on the north and northwest outskirts of Khorramshahr. The only Iranian force observed in the area was a tank platoon in Abadan.

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7. (S/D) In the Ahvaz area, Iraqi forces advanced on the city of Ahvaz from the northwest, west-northwest, and southwest. These forces consisted of elements of one armor division and elements of a mechanized infantry division. The Iraqi advance from the northwest near Susangerd consisted of an armor brigade of the armor division. Opposing Iranian forces consisted of a tank battalion-minus and an SP gun battalion-minus.

8. (S/D) The Iraqi forces advancing on Ahvaz from the west-northwest consisted of a second armor brigade of the armor division. The Iraqi force approaching Ahvaz from the southwest consisted of an armor brigade and a mechanized infantry brigade of the mechanized infantry division. The opposing Iranian forces in Ahvaz consisted of one tank company-minus, one mechanized infantry battalion-minus, one SP gun battalion-plus, and one SP gun battery.

9. (S/D) In the Dezful area, Iraqi forces advanced on the cities of Dezful and Shush from the west and southwest. These forces consisted of elements of an armor division and a mechanized infantry division. Elements of the armor division (one armor brigade and one mechanized infantry brigade) were involved in the western advance on Dezful. One armor and one mechanized infantry brigade of the mechanized infantry division advanced on Shush from the southwest. Elements of an Iranian brigade-sized armor force, supported by one battalion-sized nondivisional SP gun unit and two battalion-sized artillery units, were opposing the Iraqi advance, primarily west of Dezful.

10. (S/D) The remaining Iraqi armor brigade of the armor division and mechanized infantry brigade of the mechanized infantry division were situated southwest and west of Dezful in Iraq along the Iraq/Iran border.

11. (S/D) In the Mehran area, Iraqi forces overran the city of Mehran from the west. The Iraqi forces in the area on 10 October consisted of two armor battalions and a mountain infantry brigade-plus.

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Opposing Iranian forces, consisting of elements of a battalion-sized armor force, a company-sized mechanized infantry force—supported by elements of two artillery battalions and elements of one battalion-sized nondivisional SP gun unit, were deployed north and east-southeast of the Iraqi forces.

12. (S/D) Iraqi forces in the Mandali, Iraq, area were involved in two offensives in the vicinity of the Iraq/Iran border between Qasr-E Shirin, Iran, and Mehran, Iran. The northernmost offensive was in the Naft-E Shah area, Iran, 15 nm north of Mandali. Iraqi forces involved in this offensive included a mechanized mountain infantry brigade-minus, one mountain infantry brigade, and one tank battalion. The opposing Iranian units consisted of a battalion-sized armor and artillery force.

13. (S/D) An Iraqi tank battalion was involved in the southernmost offensive. Iranian opposition was provided by a battalion-sized armor and artillery force.

14. (S/D) In the Qasr-E Shirin area, the Iraqi forces crossed the Iraq/Iran border, overran the city of Qasr-E Shirin, and advanced into Iran in two directions. One advance headed east along the road to Pol-E Zohab, and the other headed southeast towards Gilan-E Gharb. The Iraqi force consisted of major elements of an armor division and elements of two mountain infantry brigades. Elements of a brigade-sized Iranian armor force, supported by elements of at least three artillery battalions, were opposing the Iraqi advances.

15. (S/D) Along the Iraq/Iran border from the As Sulaymaniyah area (65 nm north of Qasr-E Shirin) in Iraq to the Iraq/Iran/Turkey border area, both Iraqi and Iranian forces were dispersed in and out of their respective garrisons in defensive positions. An Iraqi mountain infantry brigade was deployed in the area between As Sulaymaniyah and the border. There was no evidence of any major border incursions by either force.

## **GROUND FORCES ACTIVITY**

### **Iraq/Iran Forward Areas**

#### **Khorramshahr/Abadan Area**

16. (S/D) An Iraqi armor brigade, elements of a second armor brigade, and elements of a mechanized infantry brigade advanced on Khorramshahr/Abadan from the west-northwest. [redacted] 25X1 (Figure 2), the armor brigade, supported by an FA battery, had crossed the Karun River via a PMP bridge (Figure 3) 11 nm northeast of Khorramshahr and advanced south to within 2 nm of Abadan. The remainder of the force, consisting of elements of the mechanized infantry brigade and elements of the second armor brigade, were deployed in the area north-northeast, north, northwest, and west of Khorramshahr. The armor brigade, which had advanced on Abadan, deployed the majority of its force north of the city. The remainder of the brigade, along with additional mechanized infantry units, was deployed around the PMP bridge northeast of Khorramshahr. Units protecting the PMP bridge consisted of a tank battalion-minus on the east bank and one tank company and two companies, one company-minus, and one platoon of mechanized infantry on the west bank. An engineer unit and a supply and transport unit were also on the west bank.

17. (S/D) Iraqi units deployed 2 and 6 nm north and northwest of Khorramshahr [redacted] 25X1 included one tank company-minus, one tank platoon-plus, one mechanized infantry battalion-minus, one mechanized infantry company, one FA battalion-plus, and one FA battalion. Iraqi units deployed across the Shatt Al Arab River in Iraq and opposite Khorramshahr included one FA battalion, one FA battery, and one SA-6 battalion. One additional FA battery was deployed opposite Abadan.

18. (S/D) One Iraqi tank battalion-minus, one mechanized infantry company, one FA battery, and one antiaircraft artillery (AAA) battery were deployed 21 nm north-northeast of Khorramshahr. One Iraqi tank company and one mechanized infantry platoon were deployed just inside Iran, 18 nm north-northwest of Khorramshahr, and one SA-6 battalion was 13 nm northwest of Khorramshahr. One Iraqi tank platoon, two SA-6 battalions, and one engineer battalion were along the Iraq/Iran border, 11 nm west-northwest of Khorramshahr.

19. (S/D) Although Iranian infantry were probably in the cities of Khorramshahr and Abadan, only one Iranian tank platoon, in a residential area of Khorramshahr south of the Karun River, was observed.

20. (S/D) Iraqi units west of the Iran/Iraq border, in the Al Basrah area of Iraq, included one tank company, one mechanized infantry company, one SA-6 battalion, and one supply and transport unit. Two HIND helicopters were on the northeast side of the Shatt Al Arab River, opposite the city of Al Basrah. One SCUD brigade, one mechanized infantry company-plus, and one mechanized infantry company were at Shaibah Airfield [redacted] 11 nm southwest of Al Basrah. A tank battalion on the southwest bank of the Shatt Al Arab River, 20 nm northwest of Al Basrah, was protecting a TPP bridge across the river. This bridge may have been used by the Iraqi forces advancing on Ahvaz, 65 nm to the northeast. 25X1

21. (S/D) Fires were seen along the Abadan/Ahvaz pipeline in seven locations from just east of Khorramshahr to just north of the Iraqi bridgehead, 11 nm northeast of Khorramshahr (Figure 4).

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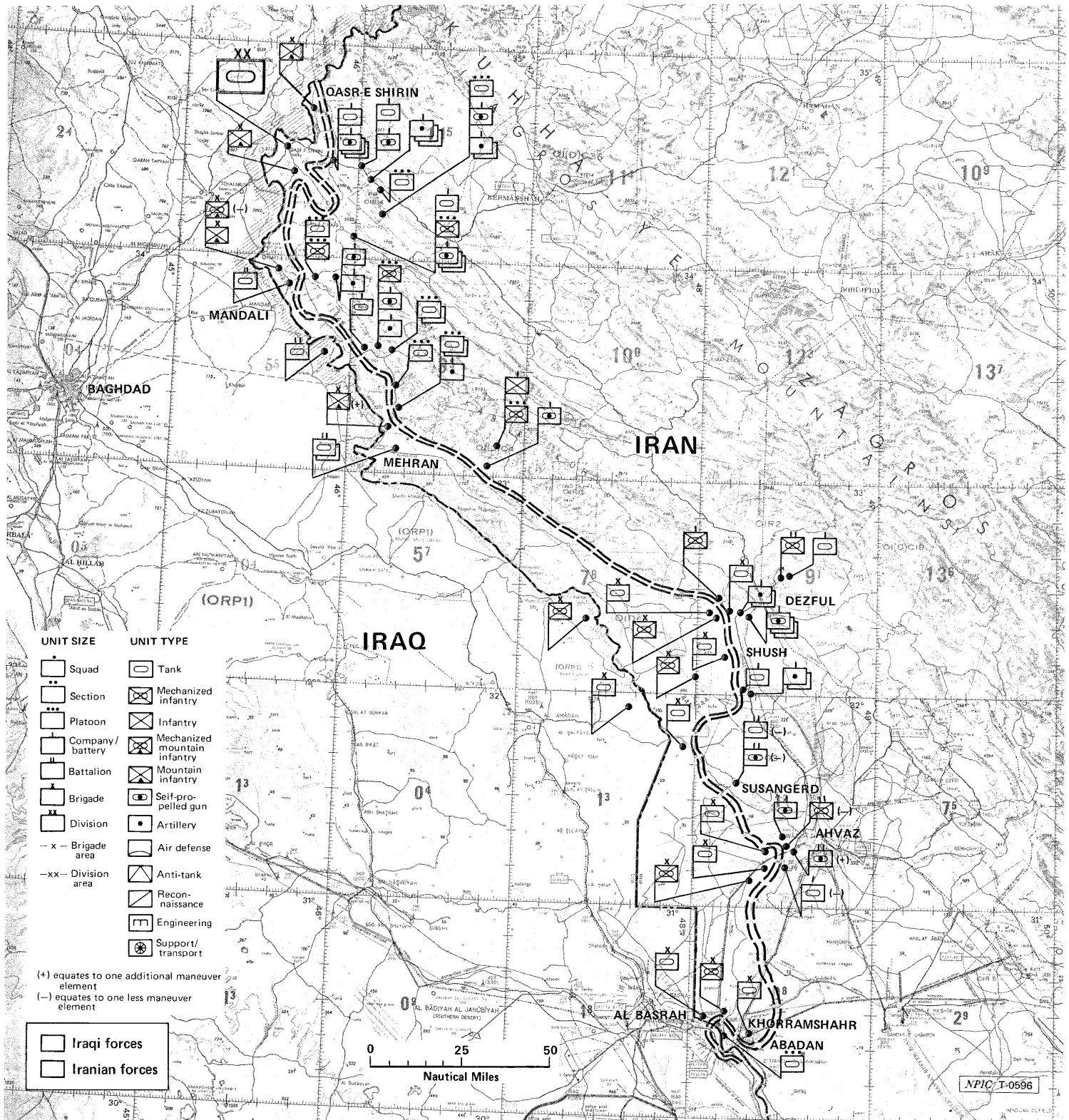


FIGURE 1. IRAQI/IRANIAN GROUND FORCE DEPLOYMENTS 10-15 OCTOBER

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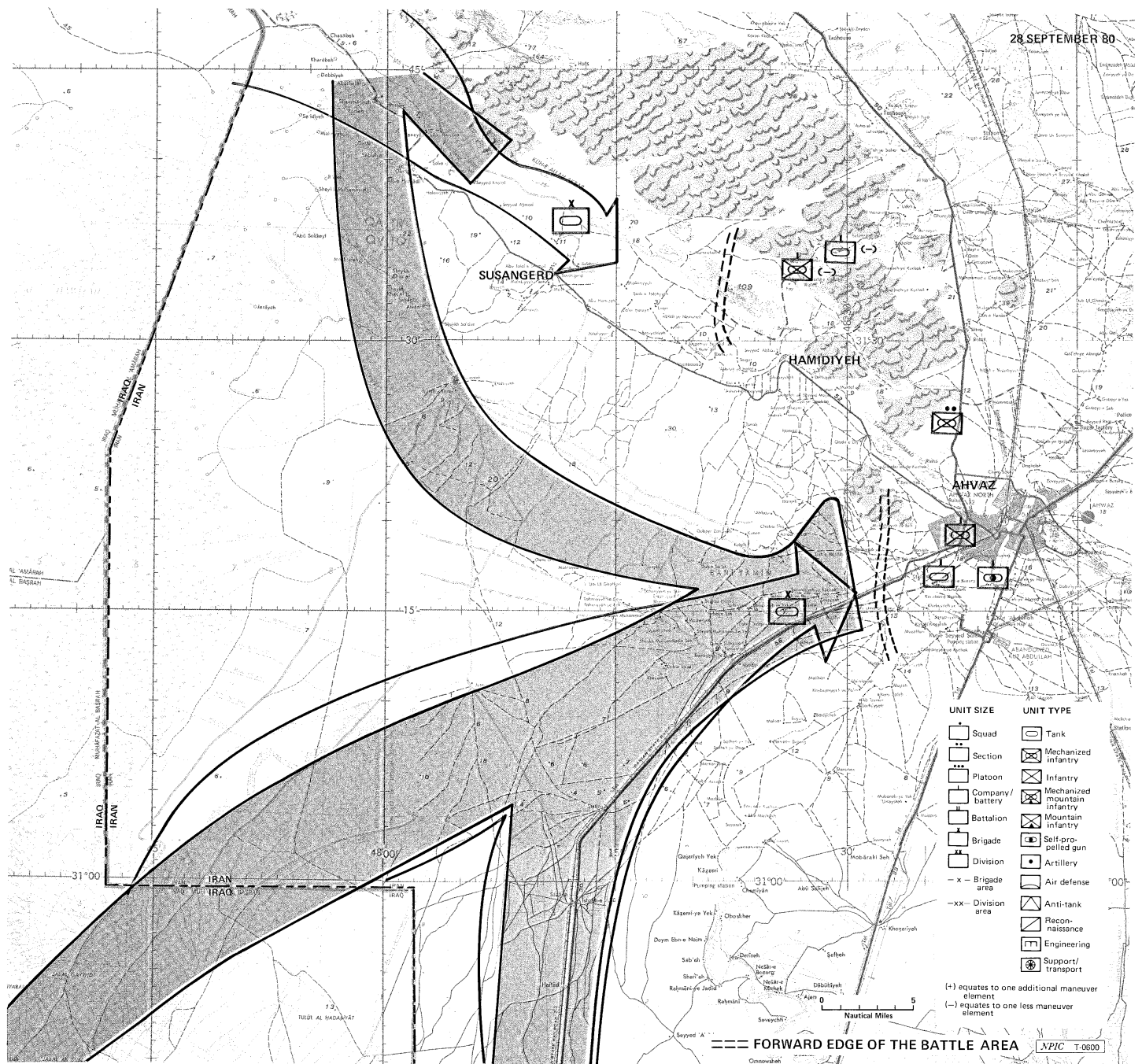


FIGURE 5. IRAQI AVENUES OF ADVANCE, AHVAZ AREA, IRAN

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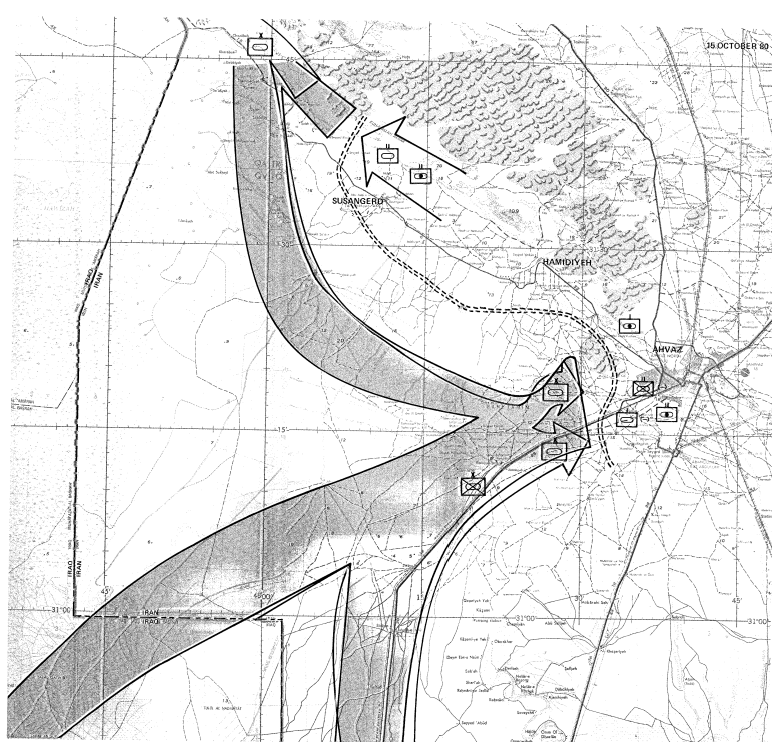


FIGURE 5. IRAQI ADVANCES OF ADVANCE, AHVAZ AREA, IRAN

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22. (S/D) Elements of two Iraqi divisions (one armor and one mechanized infantry) were involved in offensive operations in the Ahvaz/Susangerd area (Figure 5). The armor division elements were committed to the northwestern advance on Susangerd and Ahvaz, and the mechanized infantry division elements were committed to the southwestern advance on Ahvaz.

23. (S/D) The Iraqi force advancing toward Susangerd/Ahvaz from the northwest [ ] consisted of an armor brigade of the armor division. The advance had gone beyond the town of Susangerd along the northern bank of the Karkheh River to a point 10 nm northwest of Hamidiyeh and 24 nm northwest of Ahvaz.

24. (S/D) The opposing Iranian force consisting of a tank company-minus and a mechanized infantry company-minus was retreating in an easterly direction 5 nm north of Hamidiyeh.

25. (S/D) Iraqi forces advancing toward Ahvaz from the southwest consisted of an armor brigade of the mechanized infantry division. This brigade had moved to within 6 nm of Ahvaz [ ] Analysis of vehicle tracks indicated that one portion of the brigade had advanced from the south-southwest along the Khorramshahr/Ahvaz road while another portion had advanced from the southwest from a point 19 nm northwest of Al Basrah, Iraq.

26. (S/D) The opposing Iranian forces, consisting of a tank company, a mechanized infantry company, and an SP gun battery, were deployed on the southwestern edge of Ahvaz. An Iranian mechanized infantry platoon was 7 nm north of Ahvaz.

27. (S/D) [ ] the Iraqi advance from the northwest was not seen. Partial coverage of the southwestern advance on that date showed that the Iraqi armor brigade remained 6 nm southwest of Ahvaz. This brigade had been reinforced by a mechanized infantry unit deployed immediately to the rear. In addition, elements of another armor force were advancing toward Ahvaz from the west-northwest and were 11 nm west of the city. This force, which was partially imaged, consisted of a tank battalion, possibly an element of a second armor brigade of the armor division.

28. (S/D) The opposing Iranian forces had been reinforced and consisted of a tank company, a mechanized infantry company-plus, and an SP gun battalion. These units were southwest of Ahvaz, within 3 nm of the city. An Iranian tank company-minus and a mechanized infantry company-minus were deployed 7 nm north of Ahvaz.

29. (S/D) [ ] the Iraqi armor brigade in the Susangerd area had retreated 13 nm [ ] lead elements of the brigade (Figure 6) were 11 nm northwest of Susangerd (37 nm northwest of Ahvaz) and consisted of two tank battalions-minus and two mechanized infantry companies. A tank battalion, one tank company, and one FA battery were deployed to the rear of the lead elements. Additional units deployed at the Iraq/Iran border consisted of one tank company-minus, one mechanized infantry company-minus, one engineer company, a command post, and a supply and transport unit. The advancing Iranian battalion-sized armor and SP gun units 32 nm northwest of Ahvaz in the vicinity of Susangerd consisted of one tank company-minus, two tank platoons, one M-109 A1 and one M-107 SP gun battery, and a supply and transport unit.

30. (S/D) The Iraqi forces advancing on Ahvaz from the west-northwest and southwest remained 5 nm west of the city [ ] The Iraqi force to the west-northwest of Ahvaz consisted of a second armor brigade of the armor division whose forces had advanced from the northwest. A tank battalion of this brigade had been observed [ ]

31. (S/D) The Iraqi advance from the southwest consisted of an armor brigade of the mechanized infantry division. Support units were deployed 11 nm southwest and 12 nm west of Ahvaz. The support units southwest of the city consisted of two tank companies, two FA battalions, one FA battalion-minus, and three AAA batteries. Reserve units west of the city included one tank company, one tank platoon, three FA battalions, one FA battalion-minus, one multiple rocket launcher (MRL) battery, one AAA battery, and a command post.

32. (S/D) Elements of the Iraqi mechanized infantry brigade of the mechanized infantry division were dispersed between 13 and 31 nm southwest of Ahvaz. Units in this area included one tank company, two tank platoons, two mechanized infantry battalions-minus, one mechanized infantry company, one mechanized infantry platoon, one FA battery, one AAA battery, and three supply and transport units. In addition, a PMP bridge had been extended across a canal, 20.5 nm west-northwest of Ahvaz.

33. (S/D) The opposing Iranian forces immediately northwest and southwest of Ahvaz consisted of a tank company-minus, a mechanized infantry company, a mechanized infantry company-minus, a mechanized infantry platoon, an M-109 A1 SP gun battalion, and an M-107 SP gun battery. Units seen at Ahvaz Barracks Storage Depot Brigade and Division Headquarters [ ] included one tank battalion, one mechanized infantry brigade, one armored reconnaissance company-minus, and one M-109 A1 SP gun battery. Elements of the armor brigade at Hamidiyeh Army Barracks [ ] 17 nm northwest of Ahvaz, included one tank battalion-minus and one mechanized infantry battalion-plus. A PMP bridge had been extended across the Karkheh River, 1 nm northeast of the barracks. One Iranian tank battalion-minus was deployed on the west bank of the Karkheh River, 18 nm northwest of Ahvaz.

34. (S/D) New Iraqi road construction was observed at two locations in the Ahvaz area [ ] One road extended from a point 45 nm northwest of Ahvaz westward into Iraq. This road [ ]

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connected two all-weather roads, one 4.5 nm inside Iran at 31-46-00N 047-57-00E and the other in Iraq at 31-51-30N 047-28-00E. The new road segment extended for 27 nm. A third of the road had been oiled, while the remainder had only been graded. The other road under construction started at a point 28 nm west-southwest of Ahvaz and was totally in Iran. Three segments of this road, oriented east/west, were in various stages of construction. Two of the segments were being graded and the third segment was covered with piles of aggregate. The three road segments were between 31-10-28N 047-56-25E and 31-12-00N 048-10-00E, with an overall length of 12 nm.

**Dezful Area**

35. (S/D) Elements of two Iraqi divisions (one armor and one mechanized infantry) were involved in offensive operations in the Dezful/Shush area (Figure 7). The armor division elements were committed to the western advance on Dezful and the mechanized infantry division elements were committed to the southwestern advance on Dezful/Shush.

36. (S/D) The Iraqi force advancing toward Dezful/Shush from the southwest [ ] consisted of an armor brigade and a mechanized infantry brigade of the mechanized infantry division. Lead elements of this force were just inside Iran, 41 nm southwest of Dezful. Opposing Iranian forces consisted of a tank battalion and an M-109 A1 SP gun battery deployed 5 nm northeast of the advancing Iraqi force. The Iraqi western advance was not seen [ ]

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37. (S/D) [ ] the Iraqi force advancing toward Dezful from the west had penetrated 25 nm into Iran and was 25 nm west of the city. This force consisted of a tank brigade and a mechanized infantry brigade of the armor division. A battalion-sized Iranian force of armor and artillery was 19 nm west of Dezful.

38. (S/D) Partial coverage of the Iraqi advance from the southwest [ ] showed that the lead Iraqi element, one tank battalion, had penetrated 15 nm into Iran. It was also evident [ ] that this Iraqi force was advancing toward the town of Shush, 14 nm southwest of Dezful. The opposing Iranian force consisted of at least an armor battalion, a mechanized infantry company, and an SP gun battery.

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39. (S/D) [ ] the Iraqi western advance on Dezful was within 15 nm of the city. Elements of the armor and mechanized infantry brigades involved in this advance had separated from the main force and formed a separate parallel advance which consisted of two tank battalions-minus and a mechanized infantry battalion-minus deployed in an area south of the main force. The opposing Iranian force, consisting of a tank company-minus and a mechanized infantry company-minus, had moved back to within 13 nm west of Dezful.

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40. (S/D) The Iraqi southwestern advance on Shush was 12 nm west of the city [ ] Elements of the armor and mechanized infantry brigades involved in this offensive also broke away from the main force in a probable flanking maneuver. This flanking force of an armor company and a mechanized infantry battalion was deployed 16 nm southwest of Shush. An Iranian mechanized infantry company, one SP gun battery, and an FA battery were opposing the Iraqi advance on Shush.

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41. (S/D) [ ] partial coverage of Dezful revealed only elements of the opposing Iranian force. None of the Iraqi forces advancing on Dezful from the west were imaged. An Iranian armor and artillery force of at least brigade size was dispersed around Dezful Highway Strip [ ] 11 nm west of the city.

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42. (S/D) Partial coverage of the Iraqi advance on Shush revealed that an armor brigade-minus had advanced to within 2 nm of Shush [ ] Only two Iranian SP gun batteries-minus were opposing the Iraqi forces at Shush.

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43. (S/D) [ ] the Iraqi western advance on Dezful moved to within 14 nm west of the city (Figure 8). The Iraqi armor brigade was oriented in a northerly direction and engaging the Iranian forces (Figures 9, 10, and 11). The Iraqi mechanized infantry brigade was dug in along the west bank of the Karkheh River, immediately east of the armor brigade protecting the eastern flank. Each mechanized infantry battalion of the brigade was oriented north, and each of the collocated tank companies was oriented east. Reserve and support units deployed 5 nm west of the lead elements included a tank battalion, a mechanized infantry battalion, three FA battalions, a divisional command post, and an engineer battalion. Five SA-6 battalions and one mechanized infantry company were deployed within 4 nm west and south of the reserve and support units. Three supply and transport units and an ammunition storage area were dispersed in an area between 32 and 43 nm west of Dezful. The rear approach to this support area, 45 nm west of Dezful, was protected by one tank company, two tank platoons, three mechanized infantry platoons, and one FA battery. Units deployed in Iraq 5 nm west of the border included one tank company, one mechanized infantry company, and two supply and transport units. One Iraqi tank platoon and one mechanized infantry company were along the Iraq/Iran border at 32-26-30N 047-10-00E. These forces, protecting the rear approach, may have been elements of a mechanized infantry brigade which was a part of the mechanized infantry division advancing on Shush.

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44. (S/D) Opposing Iranian forces in Dezful were deployed in the area extending from the west bank of Karkheh River east to Dezful [ ] An additional force was deployed north of the city.

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45. (S/D) One Iranian armor brigade and a mechanized infantry company were online 3 nm west of Dezful Highway Strip. This force was engaged in battle with the Iraqi forces. An Iranian infantry company

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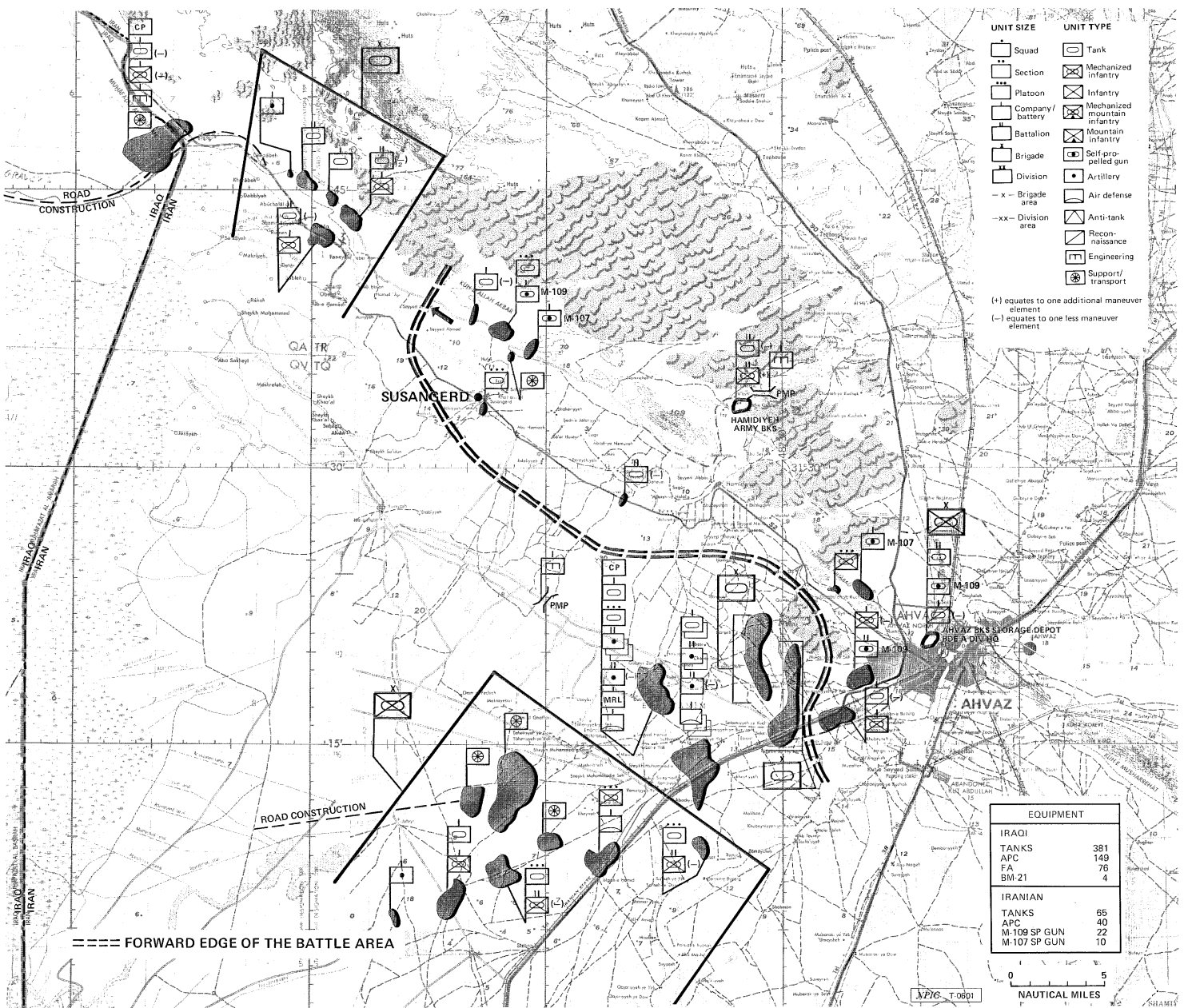


FIGURE 6. GROUND FORCES ACTIVITY, AHVAZ AREA, IRAN, 15 OCTOBER

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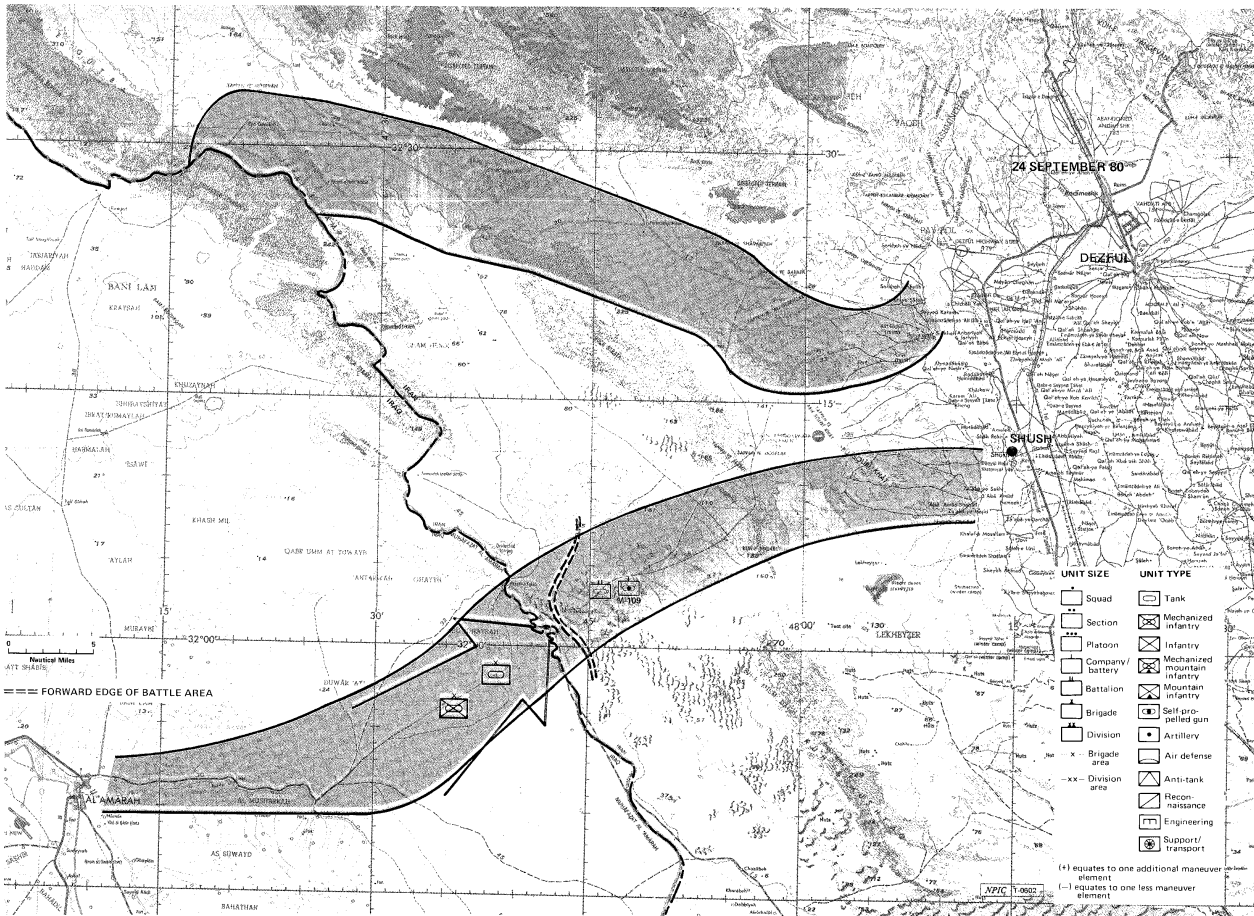
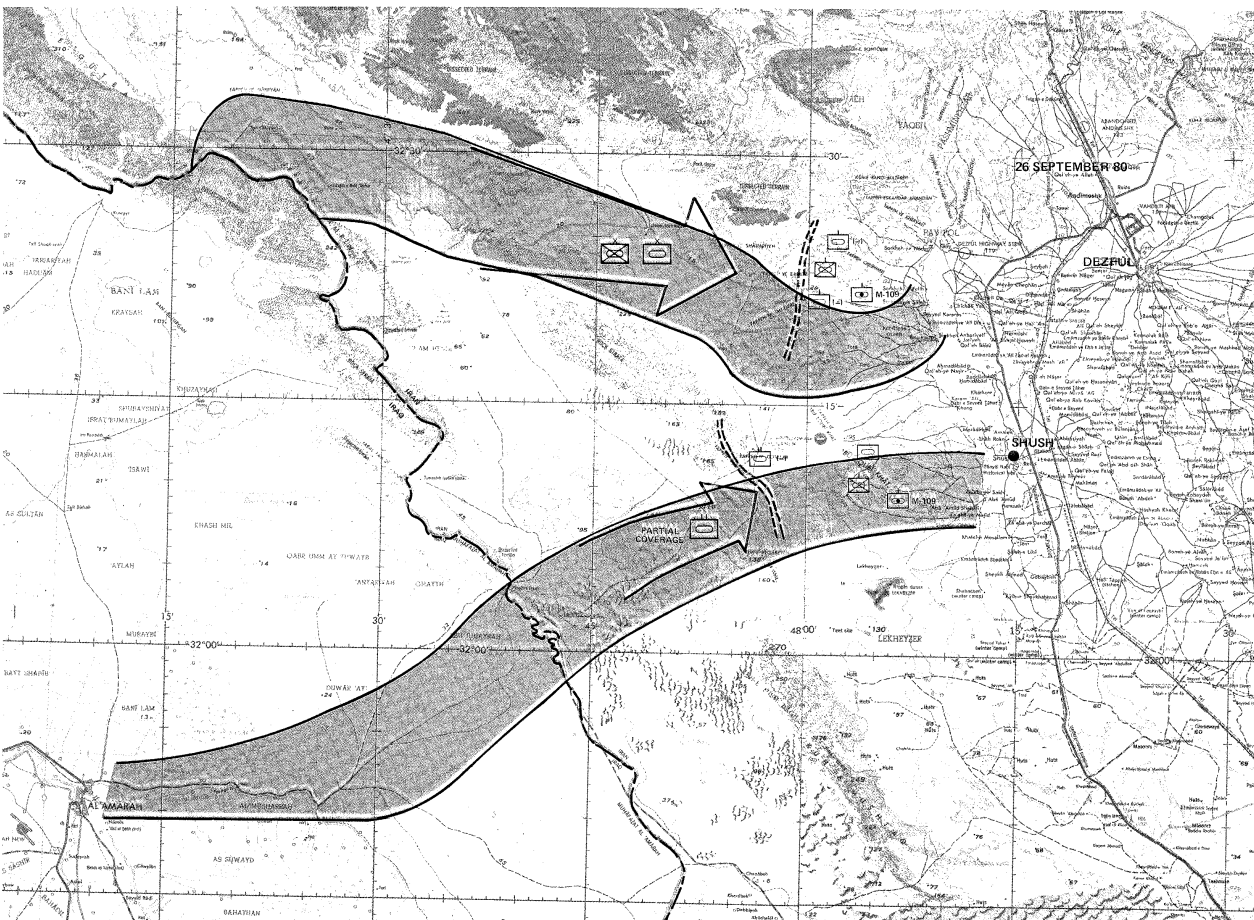


FIGURE 7. IRAQI AREAS OF ADVANCE, DEZFUL AREA, IRAN



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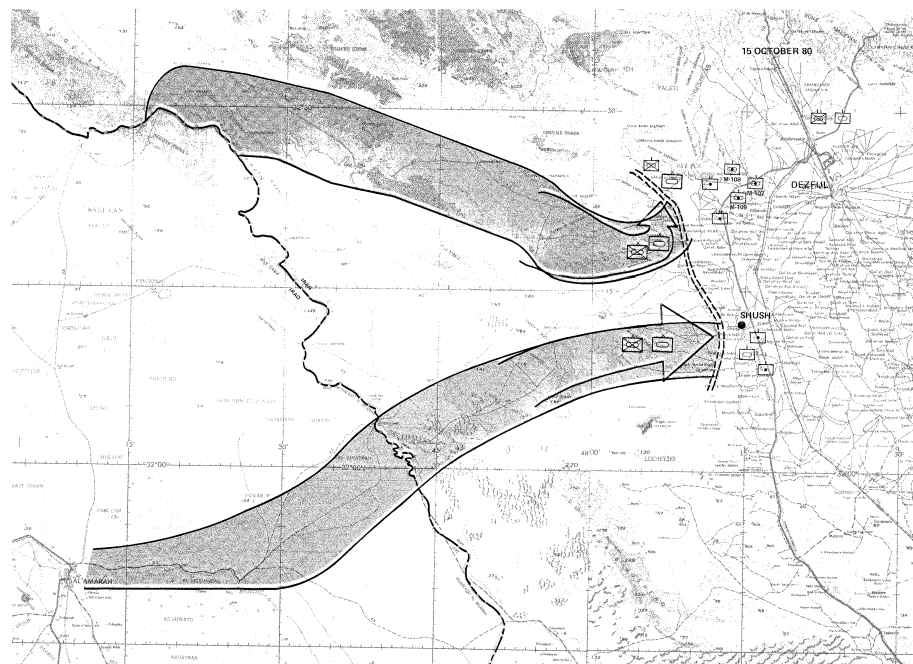
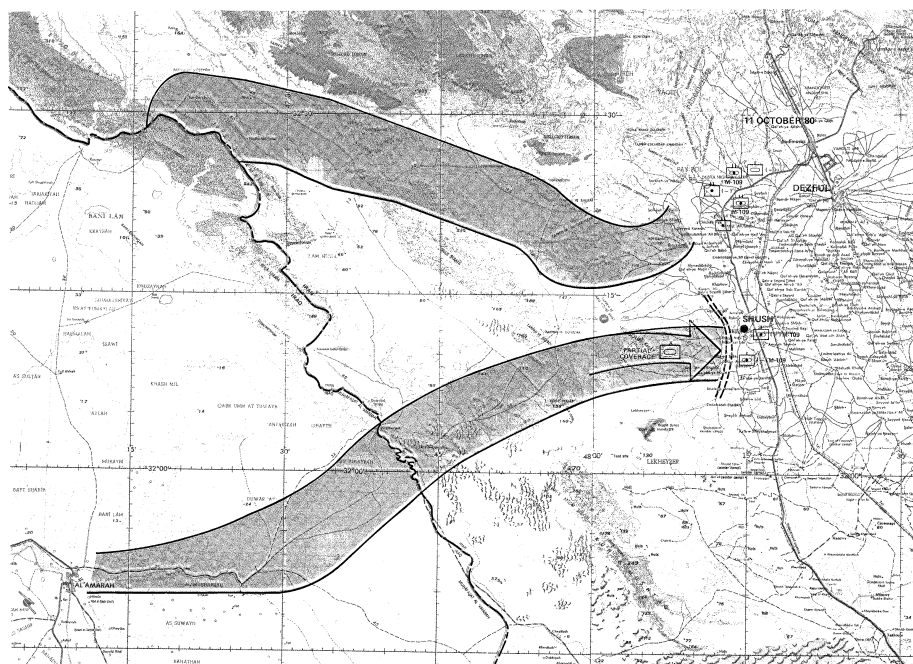
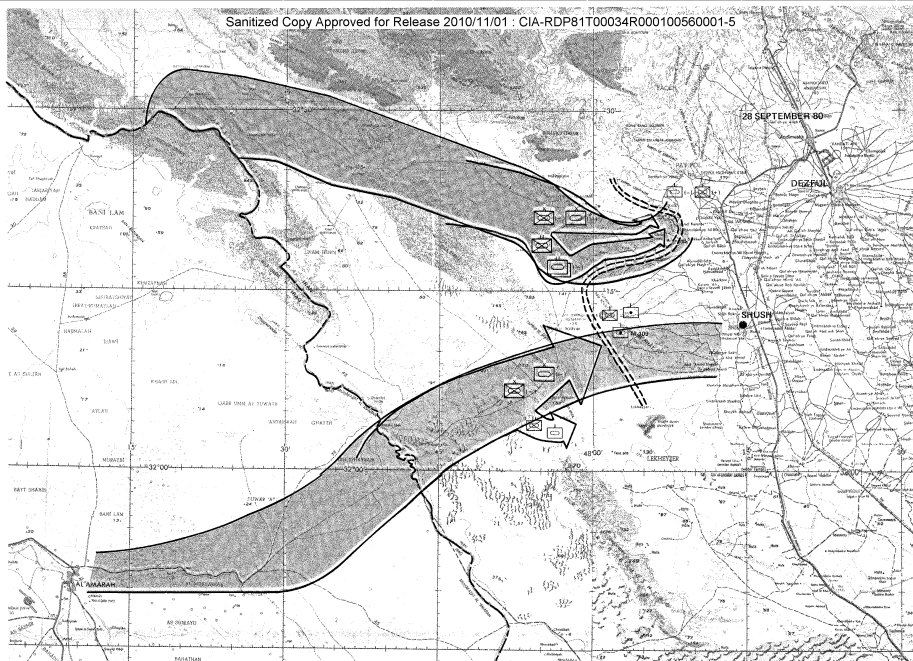
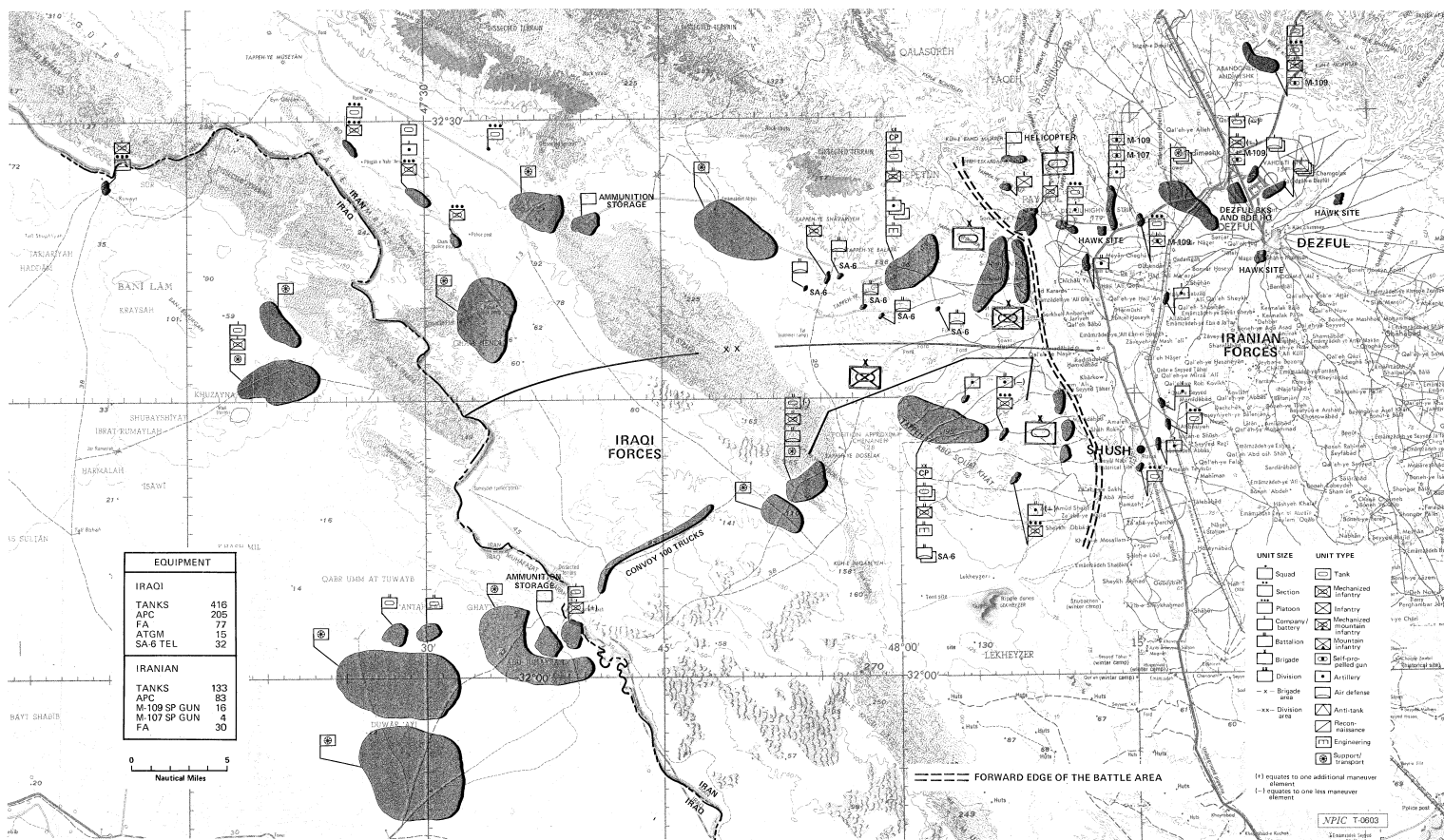


FIGURE 7. IRAQI AVENUES OF ADVANCE, DEZFUL AREA, IRAN

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and five helicopters were in the area 2 nm north of the armor brigade. The five helicopters, three AH-1, one AB-214, and one Jet Ranger, were flying in a northwesterly direction. A tank platoon and an FA battery were deployed immediately south of the highway strip. Other Iranian forces in the vicinity of the highway strip consisted of a tank platoon, three SP gun batteries, an FA battalion, and two FA batteries. Iranian units deployed 9 nm north of Dezful consisted of one tank company, one tank platoon, a mechanized infantry battalion, and one M-109 A1 SP gun battery.

46. (S/D) A tank battalion-minus, one mechanized infantry battalion-minus, and one SP gun battery were in Dezful Barracks and Brigade Headquarters [ ] Air defense in the area consisted of two occupied Hawk sites south and east of Vahdati AB Airfield [ ] and five AAA batteries deployed around the airfield. The Hawk site 15 nm west of the city, was not occupied on 15 October. This site had been occupied [ ]. Three supply and transport units were dispersed in an area 6 nm west of the city.

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47. (S/D) The Iraqi advance on Shush, consisting of an armor and mechanized infantry brigade, remained 3 nm west of the city [ ]. The tank company and mechanized infantry battalion which had separated from the main force [ ] had rejoined the main force [ ] and was advancing northeast 10 nm west of Shush.

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48. (S/D) Elements of the Iraqi armor brigade were 3 nm west of Shush, with the remaining elements deployed with the divisional command post on the west bank of Karkheh River. The mechanized infantry brigade was dispersed among the divisional support elements in an 18-nm area west of the armor brigade and consisted of one tank battalion, two mechanized infantry battalions, and two mechanized infantry platoons. The remaining elements of the armor brigade and divisional support units dispersed in this area included one tank battalion, one tank battalion-minus, one FA battalion, two FA battalions-minus, three SA-6 battalions, one engineer battalion, two supply and transport units, and a divisional command post. Approximately 100 trucks were on the road leading from this area southwest to the Iraq/Iran border.

49. (S/D) Iraqi forces deployed in Iraq within an 8-nm radius of 32-00-00N 047-32-00E consisted of two tank battalions (T-72 tanks), one tank company, one mechanized infantry company-plus, and three supply and transport units. A field ammunition storage depot was also in this area.

50. (S/D) Opposing Iranian forces consisted of two tank platoons and two FA batteries. These forces were deployed within 3 nm east of Shush.

#### **Mehran Area**

51. (S/D) Iraqi forces overran the city of Mehran [ ]. Evidence of this advance was the presence of elements of an Iraqi FA battalion east and northeast of the city [ ]. Iraqi forces in the Mehran area [ ] included two armor battalions and a mountain infantry brigade-plus (Figure 12). Major elements of the mountain infantry brigade were deployed in a valley northeast of Mehran, along the Mehran/Ilam road. Lead elements of this force were 6 nm northeast of Mehran. Opposing Iranian forces consisted of two tank platoons, 20 nm north of Mehran, and one FA battery-minus 15 nm north of the city.

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52. (S/D) The two Iraqi tank battalions, with supporting artillery, were dispersed from a point 18 nm east of Mehran in Iran to a point 12 nm west of Mehran in Iraq. Lead elements of this force deployed across the Mehran/Dezful road consisted of one tank battalion-plus supported by a mechanized infantry company and two FA batteries. Opposing Iranian forces consisted of one M-109 A1 SP gun battery deployed in a valley, 18 nm east-southeast of the lead Iraqi elements. In addition, one Iranian mechanized infantry platoon, one infantry company, and one CH-47 helicopter were parked in a valley 19 nm east of the Iraqi force.

53. (S/D) Iraqi support units in Iraq consisted of a supply and transport unit and a helicopter unit 11 nm west of Mehran. The helicopter unit consisted of three HIND and one GAZELLE. A supply and transport unit and a small security unit were 17 nm southwest of Mehran. An FA battalion and an FA battery were deployed just inside Iraq, 19 nm southeast of Mehran.

#### **Mandali Area**

54. (S/D) Iraqi forces in the Mandali, Iraq, area were involved in two offensives [ ] in the vicinity of the Iraq/Iran border between Qasr-E Shirin, Iran, and Mehran, Iran (Figure 13). The northernmost offensive was in the Naft-E Shah, Iran, area 15 nm north of Mandali and the southernmost offensive was 15 nm southeast of Mandali.

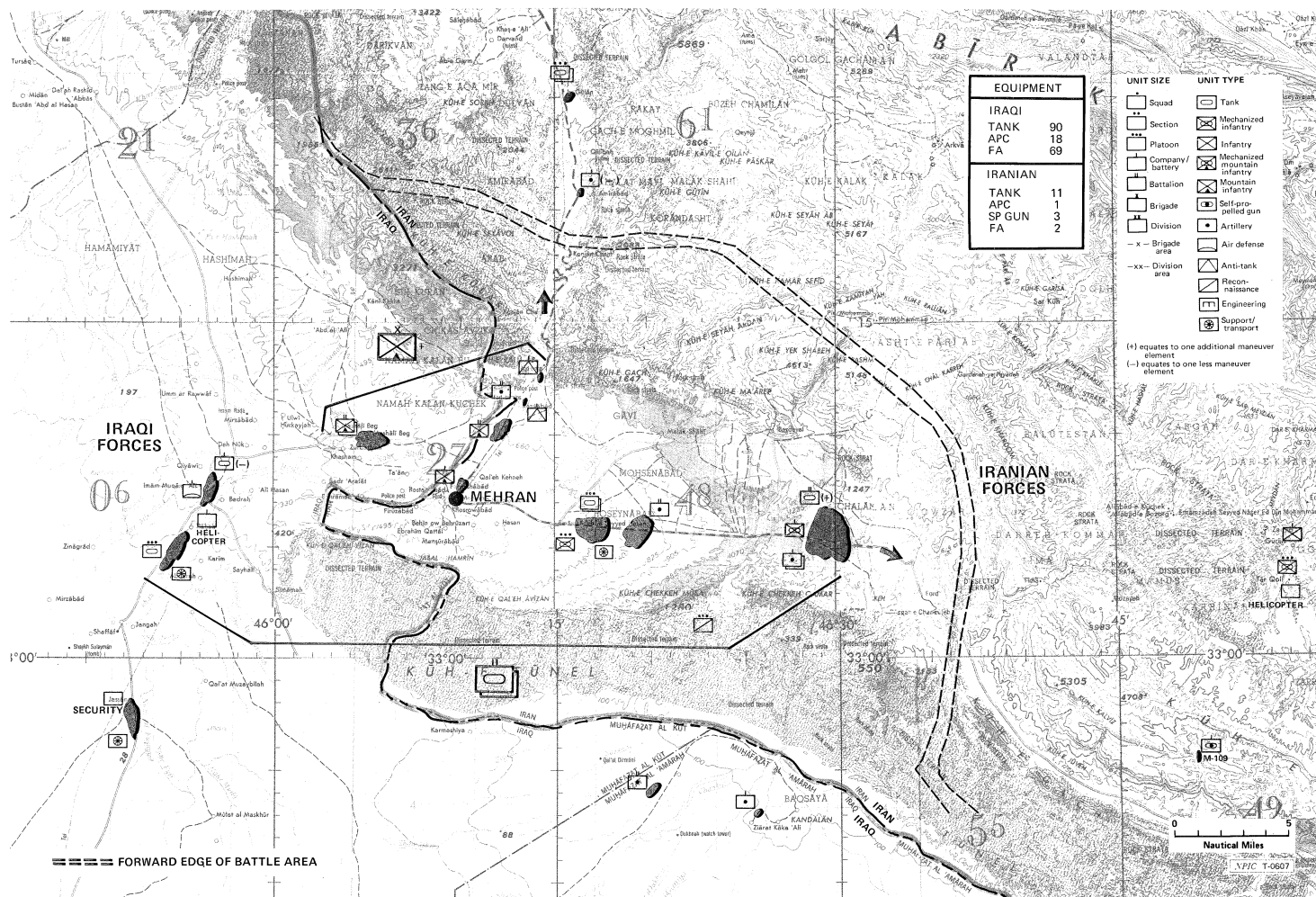
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55. (S/D) Iraqi forces involved in the northern advance included one tank battalion, one mechanized mountain infantry brigade-minus, and one mountain infantry brigade. The two mountain infantry brigades, had overrun Naft-E Shah and advanced 10 nm to the southeast. Elements of this force also advanced to the northeast in a flanking maneuver and were in a valley 10 nm east of Naft-E Shah. The Iraqi tank battalion crossed into Iran 13 nm southeast of Naft-E Shah. This unit advanced in a northeasterly direction, with its lead elements joining the eastern advance of the mountain brigade. An Iraqi FA battery and a supply and transport unit were in Iraq immediately west of Mandali. Opposing Iranian forces consisted of a tank platoon, a mechanized infantry platoon, one SP gun battery, and an FA battery deployed 4 nm east of the advancing Iraqi force.

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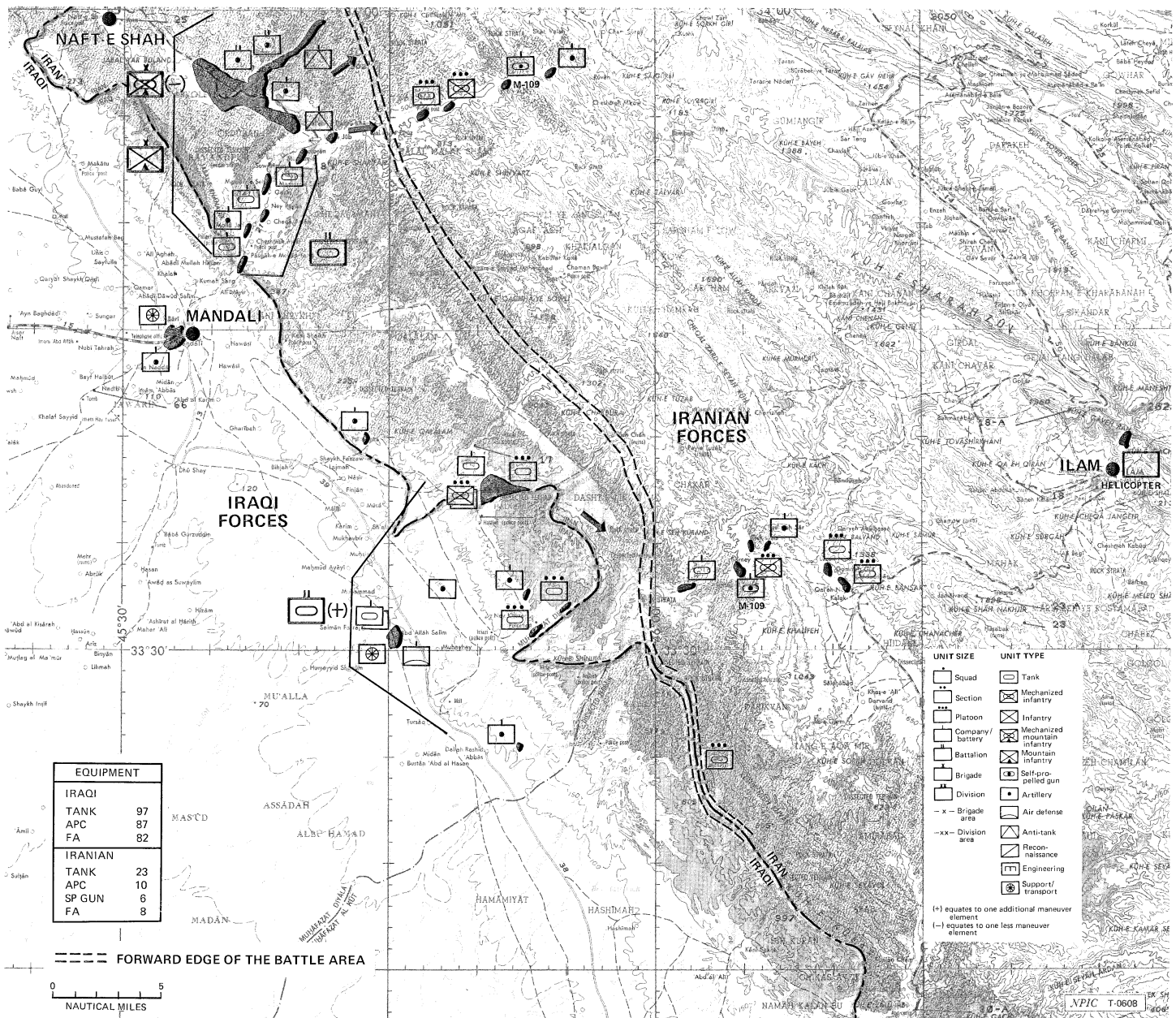
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56. (S/D) The southernmost Iraqi advance included only one tank battalion-plus. Lead elements of this force were advancing in a southeasterly direction and were on the border 18 nm southeast of Mandali. The remaining elements of this force were deployed inside Iraq.

57. (S/D) Opposing Iranian forces were deployed in the mountainous area 28 nm southeast of Mandali and 17 nm west-southwest of Ilam. These forces included a tank company, two tank platoons, one mechanized infantry platoon, one SP gun battery, and an FA battery. One additional Iranian tank platoon was deployed just inside Iran 24 nm southwest of Ilam. Two AH-1 helicopters, three Jet Ranger helicopters, and two AB-214 helicopters were parked at Ilam.

#### **Qasr-E Shirin Area**

58. (S/D) Iraqi forces had crossed the Iraq/Iran border and flanked the city of Qasr-E Shirin on three sides [redacted] There was no evidence that the Iraqi force entered the city at that time. However, [redacted] the Iraqi force, consisting of major elements of an armor division and two mountain infantry brigades supported by artillery and SA-6 units, had overrun the city and divided into two avenues of attack (Figure 14). One avenue of attack was along the main road between Qasr-E Shirin and Pol-E Zohab. An Iraqi mechanized infantry brigade of the armor division, supported by two FA battalions, one 122mm SP gun battery, one antitank gun battery, one SA-6 battalion, and a supply and transport unit, advanced east-southeast along the road to within 4 nm of the city of Pol-E Zohab. One armor brigade-minus of the armor division, supported by a 152mm SP gun battalion and a 122mm SP gun battery positioned on the northeastern flank of the mechanized infantry brigade, was also advancing on Pol-E Zohab. North and north-northeast of this advance, elements of an Iraqi mountain infantry brigade, consisting of one tank company, one mountain infantry company, one FA battalion, and two FA batteries, had advanced across the Iraq/Iran border to a depth of 5 nm and were deployed between a point 20 nm north-northeast of Qasr-E Shirin and a point 11 nm east-northeast of Qasr-E Shirin. Additional Iraqi forces were 24 nm north of Qasr-E Shirin in Iraq where a PMP ponton bridge had been extended across the Nahr Diyala River. One FA battery, one AAA battery, and three supply and transport units were in the surrounding area.

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59. (S/D) Opposing Iranian forces in the vicinity of Pol-E Zohab consisted of one tank company and three M-109 A1 SP gun batteries. Additional Iranian forces were east-southeast and southeast of the city. One tank company, one tank platoon, and one M-109 A1 SP gun battery were 7 nm east-southeast of Pol-E Zohab, while one tank platoon and three FA batteries were 5 nm southeast of the city.

60. (S/D) The second avenue of Iraqi advance was along the road between Qasr-E Shirin and Gilan-E Gharb. Elements of an Iraqi mountain infantry brigade had advanced to within 6 nm of the city of Gilan-E Gharb [redacted] The second armor brigade-minus of the armor division in the Qasr-E Shirin area was deployed to the rear of the advancing elements of the mountain infantry brigade. This armor brigade-minus was supported by an FA battalion, an SA-6 battalion, and a supply and transport unit. An overrun Iranian tank company was 4 nm southeast of Qasr-E Shirin (Figure 15). Additional elements of the mountain infantry brigade, supported by an FA battery and an SA-6 battalion, were deployed inside Iran, 9 nm south of Qasr-E Shirin. Another SA-6 battalion was 7 nm southwest of Qasr-E Shirin.

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61. (S/D) Opposing Iranian forces consisted of a tank company-minus, one mechanized infantry platoon, two M-109 A1 SP gun batteries, and one M-107 SP gun battery 4 nm southeast of Gilan-E Gharb. An Iranian mechanized infantry platoon was in the mountains east of the Iraqi forces 11 nm northwest of Gilan-E Gharb. Additional Iranian forces, consisting of a tank platoon, one M-109 A1 SP gun battalion, and two FA batteries, were 9 nm north of Gilan-E Gharb.

62. (S/D) Elements of the Iranian armor brigade remained in garrison at Sar-E Pol-E Zahab Barracks and Brigade Headquarters and Depot [redacted] These elements consisted of one tank battalion and one mechanized infantry battalion. Support units were dispersed in and around the brigade headquarters.

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63. (S/D) Iraqi forces in Iraq between the Iraq/Iran border and a point 30 nm southwest of Qasr-E Shirin consisted of a tank company, one tank platoon, one mechanized infantry platoon, a FROG battalion, an FA battery, an engineer battalion, one SA-6 battalion, one AAA battery, and three supply and transport units.

#### **REFERENCES**

[redacted]

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#### **MAPS OR CHARTS**

DoD. Joint Operations Graphics, Various sheets (UNCLASSIFIED/Distribution Restricted)

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